United States
Consumer Product Safety Commission

MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.30 Bunk Beds Clarification on Gap Question Task Group

FY 26 OP PLAN ENTRY: Bunkbeds and Youth Beds

DATE OF MEETING: 11/6/2026

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Timothy Smith (ESHF)

FILING DATE: 11/6/2026

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Timothy Smith (ESHF), Daniel Taxier (ESMC)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact ASTM for the full attendee list.

Summary of Meeting:

This initial meeting of the ASTM F15.30 Bunk Beds Clarification on Gap Question Task Group was led by the task group chair, Anders Persson. At its September 15, 2026, meeting, the Bunk Bed subcommittee considered a manufacturer question about whether the permitted opening in the upper bunk guardrail for ladder access to the upper bunk could be located towards the middle of the guardrail or must be adjacent to an end structure. The subcommittee concluded that both the ASTM standard and the regulation require the ends of the guardrail to be within 15 inches of the nearest end structure, so a centrally located opening would not be permitted if it exceeded this distance. However, this task group was formed to consider revising the ASTM standard to allow for an opening up to 15 inches wide anywhere along the length of a guardrail, because the European bunk bed standard provides this flexibility.

The task group acknowledged that although the Federal regulation would continue to require the ends of the guardrail to be within 15 inches of the nearest end structure, there was value in changing the language to allow for flexibility in the opening's location for bunk beds sold outside the United States. CPSC staff stated that such a change should be fine provided the language of the ASTM requirement is revised in a way that does not explicitly conflict with or contradict the regulation, thereby allowing products sold in the United States to meet both standards. In addition to revising the requirement, the task group discussed the possibility of adding a "Note" to the ASTM standard stating that the Federal regulation is more restrictive with the location of the opening. The task group chair will prepare a draft ballot with the proposed revisions and distribute the draft to the task group for review and comment.

The task group then discussed discrepancies between the regulation and the ASTM standard with respect to openings in guardrails, with CPSC staff noting that the ASTM requirements do not appear to test all openings within the guardrail itself for entrapment potential. Staff proposed revising the applicable requirement in the ASTM standard to be consistent with language in the regulation or in the guardrail requirement in ASTM F1821, the ASTM Toddler Bed standard, which is similar. The task group agreed with this proposal. CPSC

staff agreed to draft and send a proposed revision to the task group chair, who will prepare and distribute a draft ballot to the task group for review and comment.

Next Steps:

The task group chair, with CPSC staff's assistance, will prepare draft ballots with the proposed revisions discussed at the meeting. The chair will then distribute the draft ballots to the task group for review and comment. A follow-up task group meeting has not yet been scheduled.